

EXHIBIT 2-D

EIGHT-STEP DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Note: Be sure to maintain documentation of each step and include it in the Environmental Review Record (ERR)

STEP 1. Determine whether the proposed action is located in a floodplain and/or wetland.

For information on floodplains or insurance, contact:

Floodplain Management Section
Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
48 N. Last Chance Gulch
State of Montana
Helena, Montana 59620-1601
Phone Number: 444-6654

STEP 2. Notify and involve the public at the earliest possible time of a proposal to consider an action in a floodplain and/or wetland.

Refer to **Exhibit 2-F**, Early Public Notice for (Floodplains and/or Wetlands), regarding the public comment period and public hearing to discuss the proposed project.

STEP 3. Identify and evaluate practicable alternatives to locating the proposed action in a floodplain and/or wetland.

STEP 4. Identify the potential direct and indirect impacts associated with the occupancy or modification of the floodplain and/or wetland.

STEP 5. Where practicable, design or modify the proposed action to minimize the potential adverse impacts within the floodplain and/or wetland, and to restore and preserve its natural and beneficial values.

STEP 6. Reevaluate the proposed action to determine:

a) Whether it is still practicable in light of its exposure to flood hazards in the floodplain and/or wetland, the extent to which it will aggravate the current hazards to other floodplains and/or wetlands, and its potential to disrupt floodplain and/or wetland values; and

b) Whether alternatives preliminarily rejected at Step 3 of this section are practicable in light of the information gained in Steps 4 and 5 of this section.

STEP 7. **If the reevaluation results in a determination that there is no practicable alternative to locating the proposal in the floodplain and/or wetland, publish a final notice**

Refer to **Exhibit 2-G**, Notice of Explanation for Floodplains and/or Wetlands, regarding public comment period.

STEP 8. **Upon completion of the decision making process in Steps 1 through 7, implement the proposed action.**